

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claim 1 is currently being amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found, for example, on page 6, line 15 to page 7, line 9 of the specification.

Claims 16-18 are currently being added.

This amendment and reply adds and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After adding and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4 and 13-18 are now pending in this application for further examination on the merits, whereby claims 5-12 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-086854 to Nakamura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,134,105 to Lueker, U.S. Patent No. 6,040,924 to Tamagaki et al., and U.S. Patent No. 5,117,505 to Talwar; and claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamura and Lueker and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,069,587 to Lynch. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

Presently pending independent claim 1 now recites:

a main body of the image forming apparatus;

a reversing automatic document feeder that is provided on an upper part of the main body of the image forming apparatus;

a wireless LAN module that is provided inside a rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus;

two antennas that are provided on the rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus; and

a cable that connects the wireless LAN module and the two antennas with a shortest distance,

wherein the two antennas are disposed at positions where a first of the two antennas compensates for degradation in radiation characteristics of a second of the two antennas caused by the reversing automatic document feeder, and

wherein an uppermost part of the two antennas is provided at a position higher than a position that is lower by a predetermined distance than an uppermost part of the reversing automatic document feeder.

In the present invention as recited in claim 1, two antennas are arranged at positions such that a main antenna 5 and a sub-antenna 6 are disposed at predetermined height distances, so as to result in an optimized installation condition of those two antennas (see Figure 4 of the drawings, for example). With such disposition of those two antennas, it is possible to prevent performance degradation of a main antenna and a sub-antenna.

None of the cited art of record teaches or suggests that an uppermost part of the two antennas is provided at a position higher than a position that is lower by a predetermined distance than the uppermost part of the reversing automatic document feeder, as explicitly recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, presently pending independent claim 1 is patentable over the combined teachings of Nakamura, Lueker, Tamagaki and Talwar (and whereby Lynch, which was cited with the other art of record against claim 4, also does not teach or suggest the above-mentioned features added to claim 1).

New Claims:

New claims 16-18 have been added to recite additional features of the present invention that are believed to provide an additional basis of patentability for those claims, beyond the reasons given above for their base claim 1. In particular, new claim 16 recites that the predetermined distance (for which an uppermost part of the two antennas is provided

higher than a position of an uppermost part of the reversing automatic document feeder) is 1 cm. New claims 17 and 18 recite that *the uppermost part of the two antennas is provided at a position between an uppermost part of the reversing automatic document feeder and a position that is lower by the predetermined distance than the uppermost part of the reversing automatic document feeder*, whereby such features provided an additional basis of patentability for those claims, beyond the reasons given above for their base claim.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 945-6162
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Phillip J. Articola

Pavan K. Agarwal
Registration No. 40,888

Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819